

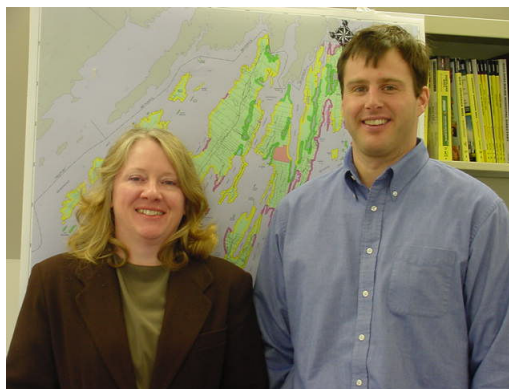
Planning Office

The Planning Office would like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to the many dedicated volunteers who serve on the various Boards and Committees which we assist. It is our goal to provide all Harpswell residents, including the Board and Committees members, with a high level of professional assistance and support.

This work keeps us involved in a diverse range of planning functions including staffing and providing technical assistance to the Board of Selectmen, Planning Board and Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee; researching, developing, coordinating and administering land use and planning related projects; updating and revising the Town's land use ordinances; maintaining informational resources (i.e. maps, model ordinances, Town reports, etc.); grant writing and administration; coordinating with other departments on new developments and activities; and providing assistance to the public as requested.

Coupled with the functions above, the staff has begun the process of organizing the years of reports and files that have accumulated amongst the office shelves. A reference library has been established which is based on the Dewey Decimal System. The information available in the Planning Office covers a wide range of topics and interests. Our intention is to create a user friendly reference that is readily accessible to those who may be interested. Additionally, the Office files have been updated to match the filing system used in other Town departments. The efficiency, flow, and accessibility of information will remain one of the department's goals for 2006.

In 2006, the Planning Office will continue working with committees and citizens on a wide range of issues. Meetings are open to the public and we encourage people to participate and get involved. Being involved in planning is a good way to balance cultural and community values with the economic, ecological, and social forces around us. If we all work together, we can create a sustainable future for Harpswell. Please feel free to contact us with any questions, comments or concerns.



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